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Subject: U.S. Application Serial No. 09/868,025; Our Ref.: 22513-501**Date:** 12/16/2004**Time:** 17:01:40 **No. Pages (Including Cover):** 8**Message:**

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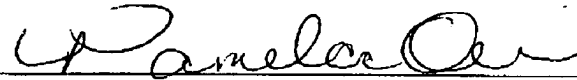
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of Villoo Morawala PATELL et al.	Examiner: Medina A. Ibrahim	
Serial No.: 09/868,025	Docket No.: 22513-501	
Filed: February 19, 2002	Group Art Unit: 1638	
For: AN ISOLATED NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCE CONFERRING STRESS TOLERANCE/SUSCEPTIBILITY IN RICE (AS AMENDED)		

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(a)

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Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on 16 August 2004. The action set a 3-month period for response. A petition for a one-month extension of time accompanies this reply as part of our transmittal paper. Accordingly, a response is due on 16 December 2004, and this reply is timely filed.

Applicant believes that no additional fee is due. However, if any fee under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 should be due to render this response timely or otherwise to maintain status of the application as pending, the Commissioner is requested to charge such fee to our Deposit Account no. 18-1260 referencing docket number 22513-501.

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